

What is claimed is:

1. A portable electronic device, comprising:
 - a. a display, wherein the display is visible to a user; and
 - b. a power source;wherein the portable electronic device presents safety information pertaining to the power source on the display.
2. The device of claim 1, wherein the safety information is presented on the display when the device is turned on.
3. The device of claim 1, wherein the device is capable of detecting whether the power source has been decoupled since the device was turned off.
4. The device of claim 3, wherein the presentation of safety information occurs when the following have occurred:
 - a. the power source has been decoupled since the device was turned off; and
 - b. the device is turned on.
5. The device of claim 2 or claim 3, wherein the safety information remains visible on the display until a user inputs information into the device.
6. The device of claim 5, wherein the inputted information is selected from the group consisting of an acceptance of the safety information and a rejection of the safety information.
7. The device of claim 6, wherein when the inputted information comprises the rejection of the safety information, the device turns off.
8. The device of claim 1, wherein the device is capable of identifying the power source coupled thereto.

9. The device of claim 8, wherein when the power source is identified, safety information of a first type is presented on the display, further wherein the power source is not identified, safety information of a second type is presented on the display.

10. The device of claim 1, wherein the power source comprises a rechargeable battery.

5 11. An electronic device, comprising:

- a. a microprocessor;
- b. memory coupled to the microprocessor, the memory having disposed therein software executable by the microprocessor; and
- c. a display;

10 wherein the software includes a plurality of steps, the steps comprising:

- a. detecting the presence of a power source; and
- b. presenting information about the power source on the display.

12. The device of claim 11, wherein the steps further comprise maintaining the information on the display until a user presses a key.

15 13. The device of claim 12, wherein the presenting of information occurs at power being applied to the device.

14. The device of claim 12, wherein the steps further comprise detecting whether the power source has been coupled to the device since the last power down operation.

20 15. The device of claim 14, wherein the device presents information about the power source on the display only if the power source has been coupled to the device since the last power down operation.

16. The device of claim 12, wherein the steps further comprise identifying the power source.

25 17. The device of claim 16, wherein when the power source is identified, a first information message is presented on the display, further wherein when the power source is not identified, a second information message is presented on the display.

18. The device of claim 12, wherein the steps further comprise polling a third party for an additional information message.
19. The device of claim 18, wherein the additional information message is selected from the group consisting of carrier safety information, OEM safety information and government safety information.
20. The device of claim 12, wherein the key is selected from the group consisting of at least a key indicating acknowledgement of the information and at least a key indicating non-acknowledgement of the information.
21. The device of claim 20, wherein when the key selected by the user is the at least a key indicating non-acknowledgement of the information, the device powers down.
22. The device of claim 12, wherein the steps comprise scrolling the information across the display.
23. The device of claim 11, wherein the device is selected from the group consisting of telephones, pagers, two-way radios, computers, PDAs and MP3 players.
24. The device of claims 11 or 12, wherein the power source comprises a rechargeable battery.
25. A method of presenting safety information relating to a rechargeable battery to a user, the method comprising the steps of:
- a. detecting whether the rechargeable battery has been decoupled from the device since the device was last operational;
 - b. presenting the safety information on a display of the device; and
 - c. maintaining the presentation of the safety information on the display until user acknowledgement.
26. The method of claim 25, further comprising powering down the device if the user acknowledges the safety information in the negative.

27. The method of claim 25, further comprising removing the safety information from the display if the user acknowledges the safety information in the affirmative.

28. The method of claim 25, further comprising identifying the type of rechargeable battery coupled to the device.

5 29. The method of claim 28, wherein if the type of rechargeable battery is recognized by the device, safety information of a first type is presented on the display, further wherein if the type of rechargeable battery is not recognized by the device, safety information of a second type is presented on the display.

10 30. The method of claim 25, further comprising polling a carrier for additional safety information.